



PATENT

Attorney Docket: 022182-000056

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William W. Jacobsen Art Unit: 1711
Application Number: 09/900,129 Examiner: Rajguru, U.
Filed: July 6, 2001
For: LIGNOCELLULOSE FIBER FILLER FOR THERMOPLASTIC
COMPOSITE COMPOSITIONS

#6
08/00/02
AS

Box: Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action dated January 25, 2002, having a statutory, 3-month term that expired on April 25, 2002. A Petition for a 3-month extension of time, together with a check for the \$460.00 extension fee (small entity status) is enclosed in order to extend the time for responding up to and including July 25, 2002. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

The gist of the present invention is a moldable thermoplastic composite comprising certain amounts of two specific components:

- (1) fiber that is lignocellulosic and strand-like in size, and
- (2) thermoplastic.

A coupling agent, such as maleic anhydride grafted polyethylene (i.e., a modified polyolefin), is optional.

Specifically, the composite contains about 20-50 weight % discontinuous lignocellulose fiber filler, which comprises at least about 20% by weight discontinuous lignocellulose fibers having a fiber length of at least about 15 mm and diameter of less than about 0.5 mm. Thus, the fibers